

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No. : 08/994,047 Confirmation No.: 6069  
Applicant : Garrison, et al.  
Filed : December 19, 1997  
Art Unit : 3628  
Examiner : Robinson Boyce, Akiba K  
Atty Docket No. : 23952-0044

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

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Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed January 28, 2003 and the Advisory Action mailed April 9, 2003, please reconsider the application in view of the following amendments and remarks. A Request for Continued Examination is submitted herewith along with a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement. The Request for Continued Examination effectively withdraws Applicant's pending appeal of the rejection of Claims 1-27 (Appeal No. 2006-2552) prior to the issuance of a ruling from the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences.

Upon consideration of the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement and the following amendments and remarks, the Applicants respectfully assert that pending Claim 28 of the present application is patentable, and that the allowance of Claim 28 indicated in a previous Office Action should be maintained.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 4 of this paper.